

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Syringomyelia, often referred to as SM, is a chronic disorder/disease involving the spinal cord; and

WHEREAS: The condition occurs when cerebrospinal fluid (normally found outside of the spinal cord and brain) enters the interior of the spinal cord, forming a cavity known as a syrinx. Many individuals suffer from chronic pain and some will develop neuropathic pain syndromes and possible paralysis. This type of pain is difficult to treat. A large percentage of people have headaches which can be severe; and

WHEREAS: The need for widespread awareness and understanding for syringomyelia is critical for meaningful research to continue so that the quality of lives is improved and a cure can be found. Unfortunately, at this time a cure is unknown; and

WHEREAS: The American Syringomyelia and Chiari Alliance Project, Inc., (ASAP) the oldest non-profit organization for Chiari and Syringomyelia, will annually celebrate May as the official month for Syringomyelia Awareness. ASAP will continue to provide support, fund research, and educate the public;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim May 2017, as

**SYRINGOMYELIA AWARENESS MONTH**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord 2017.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor



Attest:



Mark Martin, Secretary Of State